

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Rose-Hulman Scholar

The Rose Thorn Archive

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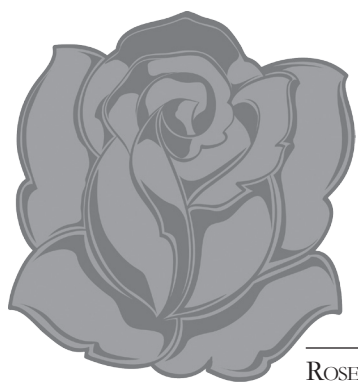
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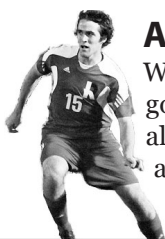
THE ROSE THORN

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY • TERRE HAUTE, IN • [HTTP://THORN.ROSE-HULMAN.EDU](http://thorn.rose-hulman.edu) • AUGUST 15, 2012 • VOLUME 48 • ISSUE 0



A little advice

The Thorn's outgoing editor-in-chief passes on some advice for surviving Rose. **Page 2**



All about Rose

We may be D3, but we've got great sports, to go along with our awesome academics. **Page 3**



Meet the Flipside

When your Friday is sad, you can turn to the Flipside for comfort and support satire and humor. **Page 4**

From one freshman to another

PRESIDENT ROB COONS WELCOMES YOU TO ROSE-HULMAN

Rob Coons

President, Rose-Hulman

You are now part of one of the finest educational institutions in the world. Welcome to Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology!

I hope you are as excited as I am to start off the new school year. You and I have something in common—we are both freshman. You are new to this business of being a college student, and I am a new college president. I hope we can get to know each other because we are both in for the greatest, most exciting challenge of our lives.

First of all, I want to say congratulations on being accepted into the class of 2016! You should be very proud that you were admitted, just as we are very proud that you chose us. This is not only the largest freshman class in our history, it is also the most diverse, and the most academically gifted group we have ever welcomed.

As you know, we have been ranked the best engineering school in the United States that doesn't offer a PhD. "That doesn't offer a PhD" phrase doesn't mean we aren't as strong as big universities; it means we judge our success by a completely different metric—by how strong we make you.

Our professors understand that their most important job is not publication, research, and pumping out PhD candidates—rather, it's the noble challenge of transforming already bright young people to think in innovative ways to solve the great problems facing our world. And just imagine: we have some of the nation's best professors who have your success as their primary goal!

Every classroom is a living laboratory. Unlike the summer blockbuster "Total Recall" starring Colin Farrell (I remember the original with Arnold Schwarzenegger) where all the experience is passively programmed into your brain, Rose-Hulman is a real-life, intellectual boot camp where we expect you to push the limits of your endurance and imagination.

Nothing about this place is passive! Almost every class, lab, project, and student activity has an active, hands-on component so that you become fully engaged and confident in your ability to figure things out, develop innovative solutions, and as we fondly like to say: "get stuff done" (GSD).

As most of our alumni can attest, four years at Rose-Hulman will probably be some of the most challenging time of your life. You will accomplish things you never imagined possible. Don't worry; we know you can do it, and you will never be in it alone. The faculty, the staff, your classmates, and the upperclassmen will all work with you to make sure you succeed. Your professors are going to be your mentors as they challenge you. They will be there for you to help bring out your very best.

There are ultimately two things that will lead to your success.

One, although our professors are constantly improving courses and giving significant thought to how a subject can be taught better, more intuitively and experientially, your success is ultimately up to you. You must make it happen!

Two, when you are relaxed, among friends, and having a good time, motivation is stronger and learning comes easier. So make it fun.



Dale Long • rose-hulman news

Last spring, a few weeks before commencement, I lost a great friend and mentor, and Rose-Hulman lost a great president when Matt Branam died of a sudden heart attack. I wish you could have known him. But instead, I hope you will remember his favorite words of

advice: "Make it happen. Make it fun!" I know that's what I'll be doing. Sincerely, Rob Coons
President, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
P.S. Send me your thoughts anytime at president@rose-hulman.edu

events



Opening event

Meet new people, win some prizes, and enjoy the comedic talents of Michael Palascak!

Hatfield Hall Circle • Friday, 7:30 p.m.

President's address

Welcome to Rose-Hulman, from the man himself.

**Sports and Recreation Center
Saturday, 1:15 p.m.**

Organizations fair

Get involved—learn all about Rose-Hulman's student organizations.

**Sports and Recreation Center
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.**



sports

Women's soccer vs. North Park
April 28 - 9 a.m.

Men's soccer vs. Milwaukee
April 29 - 9 a.m.

Football vs. Kalamazoo
May 1 - 6 a.m.

NEWS BRIEFS

Claire Stark • staff writer

Mars Rover Lands

During the Olympics, a one ton mars rover, Curiosity, landed perfectly. One of the greatest current achievements of NASA, the device worked perfectly sending its first message and pictures moments after landing. The device will be used to study if life is possible on the planet after a few weeks of system checks.

Samsung vs. Apple: Patent wars

Apple is suing Samsung over stealing design and software from the Apple iPhone. The trial started in July but is expected to last several months in one of the most high profile recent technology cases. Samsung is accused of copying the iPhone in the creation of the Galaxy S3 with such design features as curved corners as well as intellectual property. The case is opening a window into both companies design processes, finances, and upcoming products. This could lead to a release of trade secrets and other important company data, especially for Apple, who is known for their secrecy.

Syria slides deeper into civil war

Throughout the summer Syria has continued to see a greater amassing of weapons and civilian deaths as a civil war has broken out in the country. Fighting has focused on the Damascus, the capital of Syria, and Aleppo, a northern city of Syria. Government troops have been reported using tanks and helicopters on civilians. The war originally started as a result of the Arab Spring, a movement for more civil rights in the Middle East. Multiple top members of the government have left Bashar al-Assad including top generals, cabinet members and his prime minister. The opposition is headed by the Syrian National Council and the Free Syrian Army. These groups receive economic and military support from Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United States. The government is supported economically and militarily by Iran.

New plug in removes pictures of babies from Facebook

A new browser extension called unbaby.me replaces pictures of babies with “better stuff,” such as kittens, puppies, and bacon. The browser only works for chrome and updates Facebook with all the puppies you could want by refreshing the news feed after installation. The photo feed by default is cats but can be changed to the stream of choice. The plug in works by searching through a list of changeable key words. The website suggests adding the names of friends’ children to the search.

Rose-Hulman and Terre Haute: A crash course

Alex Mullans • editor-in-chief

Hello, wonderful freshmen (and wonderful freshmen parents).

Welcome to Rose-Hulman. I’m sure you’ve heard that 100 times already (if you haven’t, give it time), but it bears repeating. You’re about to spend the next four years of your life here, so allow me to give you a Rose-Hulman crash course.

First up: go to class, and do your homework. Go ahead and roll your eyes, but sometimes it’s easy to let that stuff fall behind intramurals, fraternities/sororities, clubs, League of Legends, frisbees on the lawn, and the other things you’ll decide you want to get involved in while you’re here. That stuff is all fun, and you should definitely do as much of it as you can. But, sometime in May 2016, you’ll want to be walking across the stage shaking the hands of a bunch of people in strange robes, and that’s hard to do if you don’t pass your classes.

Secondly: get involved. There is at least one activity here that interests you,

guaranteed. Whether it’s something formal and organized like photography club or intramurals or rushing a fraternity, or something completely random like messing around on the dock in Speed Lake or cooking out on Speed Beach, you need to have fun, otherwise it will be a long four years. “Work hard, play hard” is a bit of an admissions cliché,

dence life staff will probably take you to) has an address in Terre Haute. And, the generally calm atmosphere you’d expect from a city of 60,000 is more than counterbalanced with weekend events and parties, both official/school-sponsored and unofficial.

Rose-Hulman (like most colleges) is like a choose-your-own-adventure game.

You can take the three year, nose-to-the-grindstone path and be done really quickly (but not have much fun), or you can have so much fun that four

Rose-Hulman... is like a choose-your-own-adventure game.

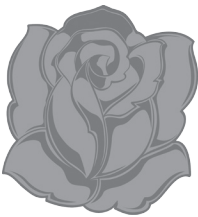
but it really is the best way to do Rose-Hulman.

Finally: Terre Haute is a good city. It’s not Indianapolis or Chicago, but that’s not a bad thing. The Haute and Rose-Hulman have a nice symbiotic relationship. Its size means we can do things like leaving doors unlocked all day (not an official policy, but problems are so rare that pretty much everyone does it). Pretty much every restaurant you’ve ever heard of (and some really good local places your resi-

years becomes six (parents: don’t cringe too hard – it’s rare). You’ll probably enjoy your adventure the most if you balance the fun stuff and your classes (which can also be fun, keep in mind). So, go forth young freshman! Rush a fraternity/sorority. Join a club (or clubs). Install your MMO of choice. Say hello to your professors (most of them don’t bite).

In the words of Matt Branam, our late President, “Make it happen. Make it fun.”

Helpful terms	
Hautian	Our word for the locals. Said with a mixture of endearment, curiosity, and (sometimes) surprise.
Laking	Is your birthday not in December or January? Then you’ll probably find yourself experiencing one of these in celebration of your special day.
The Union	A lot of important things take place in this building. But, for freshman, it’s just the building by Deming with the cafeteria.
TBR	This acronym doesn’t belong specifically to Rose-Hulman, but if you didn’t know it before, you’ll learn it here. Taco Bell Run



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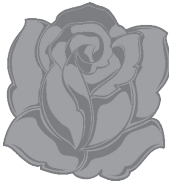
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We are Rose-Hulman’s independent student newspaper. We keep the Rose-Hulman community informed by providing an accurate and dependable source for news and information.

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t /TheRoseThorn

- Alex Mullans • editor-in-chief
- Marcus Willerscheidt • editor-in-chief
- Kurtis Zimmerman • news
- Kevin Weaver • entertainment
- Katrina Brandenburg • living
- Richard Thai • opinions
- Matt Dierksmeier • sports
- Sean Gorsky • flipside
- Jessica Reames • photo
- Emily Asman • copy
- Jason Latimer • copy
- Andrew Klusman • business
- Richard House • adviser



- Ranjana Chandramouli • writer
- Katie Dial • writer
- Sean Finney • writer
- Viktor Goben • writer
- Morgan Lopez • writer
- Stephen Mayhew • writer
- Jesse Sestito • writer
- Hobey Tam • writer
- Claire Stark • writer

Issues of The Rose Thorn are published on the first through ninth Fridays of each academic quarter.

WEEKLY MEETINGS OCCUR at 5:15 p.m. on the first through ninth Wednesdays of each academic quarter. All members of the Rose-Hulman community are welcome to attend.

SUBMISSION of articles, photographs, art, and letters to the editor is encouraged. Submissions may be made by email to thorn@rose-hulman.edu or in person to Hulman Memorial Union room 249. The submission deadline is 5:00 p.m. Wednesday.

THE RIGHTS to accept submissions or changes made after the deadline, to include submissions in the online edition at thorn.rose-hulman.edu, to edit submissions insofar as the original intent of the submission remains unaltered, and to reject submissions deemed inappropriate for print are reserved by the editors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR should be no longer than 600 words in length and must contain the writer’s (electronic) signature.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED herein are those of their respective authors and, with the exception of the Staff View, do not necessarily represent the views of the staff or the Rose-Hulman community.

FILL THE STANDS FOR YOUR FIGHTIN' ENGINEERS

Kurtis Zimmerman • news editor

Rose-Hulman is built on an academic foundation; that is well-known. What fewer witness is the dominance of Fightin' Engineer athletics.

Just last season, Engineer volleyball, men's soccer, and men's basketball teams won their HCAC tournaments to advance to the NCAA Division III Tournament.

The women's basketball team recorded the program's first postseason win after advancing to the conference tournament, and the baseball team won the HCAC regular season title before a narrow fall in the postseason tournament. The men's tennis team followed up a 2011 regular season title with a berth in the conference tournament as well.

And to round out last year, Liz Evans picked up her fourth consecutive NCAA Division III high jump national title.

With experienced returning squads, the Fightin' Engineers look to repeat their successes last year with competitive seasons again this year.

Unfortunately, what we haven't mastered is filling the stands for our hard-working athletes. But here's the great news: even if you don't love (or fully understand) many sports, there are several good reasons to support the Engineers this year.

First off, all the home events are free for Rose-Hulman students, and all the courts/fields/tracks are within walking distance. You don't have to drive across an expansive campus to find the football field. It's basically in your backyard.

Secondly, there is usually free food at several athletic events throughout the year. Maybe it's a little ironic to

be chewing on pizza while our athletes battle it out on the basketball court, but they appreciate the support nonetheless. And that food is often provided by a company looking to mix with some of the nation's best students, so take the chance to network and get to know a company you may find yourself interested in working for.

Another perk you may not realize is the potential for *you* to win at a sporting event. There are frequently raffles, half-court shots, and other chances to win something unexpected while supporting your peers.

If I can't convince you to support Rose-Hulman athletics with those compelling arguments, I'll make one more impassioned plea.

Many Division I schools pay for strong athletes that end up leaving early before graduating to play in the professional leagues, your Fightin' Engineers battle for you. They are true *student*-athletes, working hard in and out of the classroom to best represent Rose-Hulman.

For anyone who has watched (in person or on television) a college or professional game, the ability of the crowd to influence a game and change the momentum for the home team is hard to deny. But with a nearly empty home/student section at many events, the visiting team often easily overpowers the few supporters in the stands.

I hope you take the time at least a few times this year to head out to an event with a few friends and silence the visitors that dare challenge the Fightin' Engineers.



Rose-Hulman News

The rosiest parts of Rose-Hulman

Katrina Brandenburg • living editor

As you and some of your incoming freshman classmates might have realized in choosing colleges, not every school is alike. It's likely that some parts of several different colleges appealed to a college seeking senior in high school and that the decision was a difficult one to make. It is probably the most adult decision so far in a college freshman's life, but share in the knowledge of a rising sophomore and rest assured. In choosing Rose-Hulman, no mistake has been made.

The first great part of Rose is your classmates. Look around you, and then look again. These other students at orientation will be your peers for the next four years. In small numbers, you will attend classes together, play intramural or varsity sports, join clubs, and explore the surrounding city of Terre Haute. Some of these people will quickly become the greatest friends you've ever known. Choose wisely, but be generous with your time in getting to know one another. You are now surrounded by people who can and often will equal and chal-

lenge you on every front in which you may have thought there was an advantage for you.

The second greatest part of this campus is the activities you will discover through the Activity Fair or peers. This school is small, but your options are many. There is something for the mechanically inclined in clubs like Human Powered Vehicle Team, which builds and races bicycles and for the Chemistry thinkers in clubs like ChemE Car, which builds a car to run on a fuel cell. For those who are less interested in science for leisure time activity, there is Drama Club, Pep Band, and Student

Association, which are both integral parts of student life. For more active bodies, there is rock climbing and swing dance. For more social individuals, chapters of Greek and professional fraternities or sororities are a part of campus. And of course, you are currently occupying your time by reading the school newspaper, which always accepts new writers and photographers. Activity groups are never too large on a campus so small; a close and friendly atmosphere is likely in clubs just like on the rest of campus.

Next on the list is academic life. College classes can feel like sun bathing

in subjects of strength and interest, but sometimes they might feel more like quicksand. For the sun bathing courses, remember not to fall asleep. Professors here are great people and great minds who come to teach and might or might not take sleeping personally. For the quicksand courses, remember the resources. There is the Learning Center in the lower level of the library for most courses; there are the tutors in the Percopo classroom for sophomore level courses. And, there are the

professors themselves. Since they come to teach, they have office hours that should be used to benefit you. Should office hours be inconvenient, professors' emails are available in Outlook through a simple search of the global address list. It is unlikely to find as much support and interest in the learning of students as exists here, and it is a great bit of fortune to experience it as a student.

Another feature of campus life is the simple experience of being new in a place so unique and beautiful. Take the opportunity to go within the White Chapel and not just to look at its shiny, pretty façade lit up in the night. Use your independence to set your own rules and establish your own lifestyle as an individual person and young adult. Set your own sleep schedule, set an alarm, decide whether or not to eat breakfast, and wash your own laundry. Maybe, cook in the dorm's kitchen. Maybe, go to a restaurant. Always do your homework, or discover the consequences of unfinished work. Live responsibly, or find out the toll of irresponsibility. Almost every choice in daily life has suddenly become yours to make. Leave your door open to new experiences. Leave your door open to Rose-Hulman, and it will open many doors to you.

In choosing Rose-Hulman, no mistake has been made.

Activity Board. Rose offers membership on the Student Government Association and the Residence Hall

Tourism:

Sightseeing and Landmarks of Terre Haute

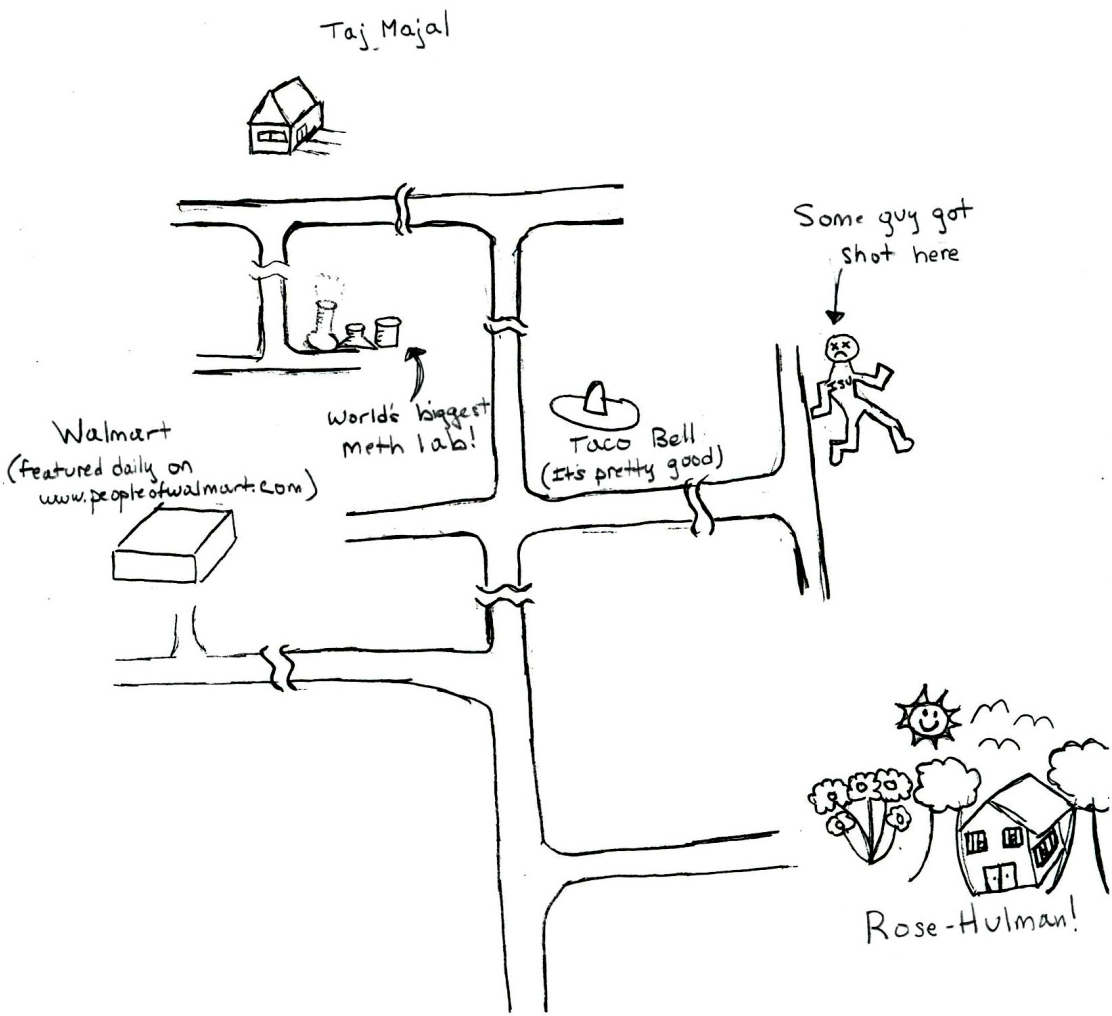
Grant McAwesome-Pants
model/writer

Hello, Freshman of 2016, and welcome to Terre-Haute! All of us at Rose-Hulman are so glad to see such a fantastic and large freshman class. We weren't entirely sure how many students would turn out because last year, as you may or may not know, Accredited Online Colleges, a totally *ahem* legitimate news source, ranked Terre-Haute as the fourth worst college town in America. But 'nay,' I say! After three years in this godforsaken utopian city, I have developed a short list (shown on a map!) of some of Terre-Haute's landmarks, vistas, and sites that can do none other than convince you of this fine city's magnificence.

For more information on the entertainment and historical sites of Terre-Haute, see some of the following websites:

1. www.it_could_be_worse.com
2. www.maybe_ill_stay_in_tonight.com
and of course
3. www.crimereports.com

Again, it's great to see you all here. Have a wonderful year!



Michelangelo Ruiz Pollock Van Gogh • champion doodler

Engineers Across the Nation

The Cool Guy
humor extraordinaire

We at Rose-Hulman have many different rivals in the collegiate universe. Sports rivals, you ask? Heck no! Intellectual rivals, I propound. Over the next several weeks, it will be our goal to acquaint our students with some of Rose-Hulman's most challenging (challenged?) competitors.

This week we feature our intellectual cousins and future underlings, the Pur-Derp Burlurmurkers.

An Introduction to Wacky Prof Quotes

Every week, our professors say the wackiest things. Students like you will occasionally hear a professor say something that the rest of campus just has to hear, and it's up to you (and in my opinion [the only opinion that really matters], the best students are the ones who do this) to email the quotes with the professor's name to thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu. Below is a selection of last year's best Wacky Prof Quotes. Stay tuned for the Fall's first full issue of the Thorn with details on how to win a \$25 visa gift card!

"What's the refractive index of Vodka?"

"All that matters is who's on top."

"We've established that this is an engineering school, we don't do three-ways. Hell, we barely even do two-ways."

"When you get to be my age, you get to experience the joy of something called a colonoscopy. They cost three of four thousand dollars, and they're a real pain in the... actually, they're not that bad once you get past the preparation. It's a good joke, though."

"I don't need more book learnin'!"

"So, if you had a pandemonium but just filled with sort of hipster-type dudes, it would be a BRO-monium!"

"...I don't want to see that in the Thorn!"

Rose professors say crazy things. E-mail them to the Flipside at thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu

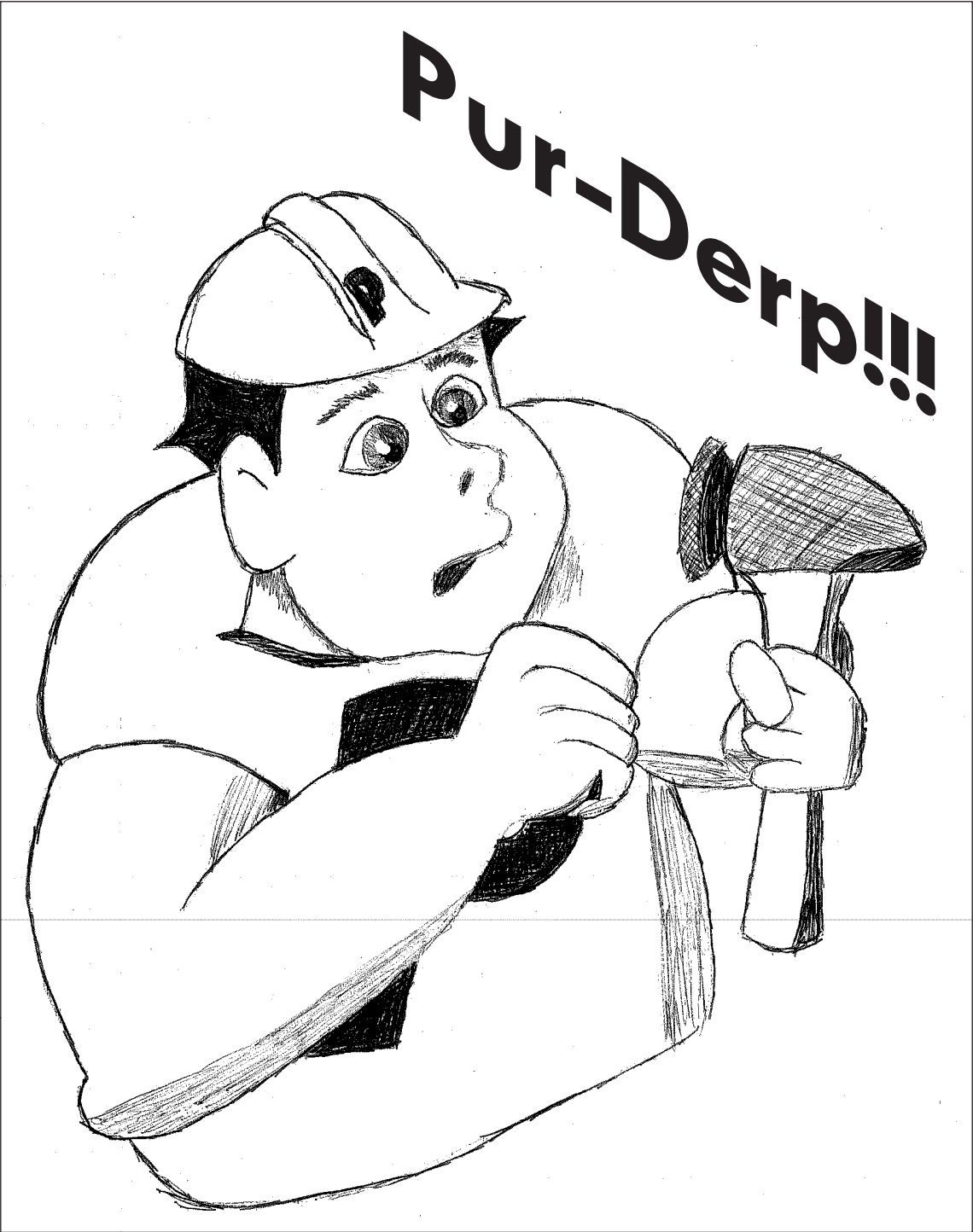
Breaking: Flipside needs writers

Still pays nothing

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO PUT CONTENT ON THE FLIPSIDE?

PROBABLY NOT.

But seriously, if you'd like to try your hand at it, send me your ideas or writings to thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu.



Monet Manet Greco Degas • famous graffiti artist